

FISCAL NOTE
HB 2195 - SB 2087

April 12, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Establishes the Multi-Level Response System for Children and Families and requires the Department of Children's Services to develop a demonstration program to reduce incidence of children subject to harm or sexual abuse as follows:

- 1) No later than January 1, 2006 the Department of Children's Services shall establish a demonstration project in at least three but no more than five areas of the state; no later than January 1, 2007, the demonstration project shall expand to no less than ten areas of the state; no later than January 1, 2009, the program shall be implemented statewide.
- 2) Establishes a state advisory committee composed of representatives from the offices of the Commissioners of Correction, Education, Health, Human Services, and Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, the Commission on Children and Youth and any other state agency that serves children or families. The Department of Children's Services shall pursue the creation of interagency agreements that will enable the department to comply with the intent of this bill.
- 3) The Department of Children's Services shall advise the Governor and specified committees of the General Assembly on progress toward implementation of the demonstration program by October 1, 2005 and every six months thereafter until statewide implementation is achieved.
- 4) October 1, 2007, the Department of Children's Services shall submit to the Governor, the Senate General Welfare Committee, the House Committee on Children and Family Affairs, and the Select Committee on Children and Youth a report of the first year of the demonstration program, including an appropriate comparison to similar areas of the state not included in such program. On December 1, 2008 and each year thereafter, an annual report shall be submitted.
- 5) In each county in which the Multi-Level Response System Program is implemented, a local advisory board shall be formed to recommend ways to assist with the development of community-based resources that may be needed by families.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$500,000

Assumptions:

- Implementation of the multi-level response system for children and families will be accomplished through existing staff and resources of the Department of Children's Services.
- Independent evaluation of the program implementation over a three- year period will result in an increase in state expenditures estimated to exceed \$500,000.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director